

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zhongyi LI, et al.  
Title: REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION IN PLANTS  
Appl. No.: ~~Unassigned~~ 09/508,377  
Filing Date: March 10, 2000  
Examiner: ~~Unassigned~~ FOX  
Art Unit: ~~Unassigned~~ 1638

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel ~~1-52~~<sup>22</sup>, and amend the claims as follows:

~~23~~  
~~53.~~ A nucleic acid sequence encoding an enzyme of the starch biosynthetic pathway in a cereal plant, wherein the enzyme is selected from the group consisting of starch branching enzyme I, starch branching enzyme II, starch soluble synthase I, and debranching enzyme, with the proviso that the enzyme is not soluble starch synthase I of rice, or starch branching enzyme I of rice or maize, and that starch branching enzyme II does not have the N-terminal amino acid sequence:

AASPGKVLVPDGEDDLASPA.

~~24~~  
~~54.~~ A sequence according to claim ~~53~~<sup>23</sup>, wherein the sequence is a genomic DNA or cDNA sequence.

~~25~~  
~~55.~~ A sequence according to claim ~~53~~<sup>23</sup>, wherein the sequence is functional in wheat.